United States Patent [19]

Johnston et al.

[11] **Patent Number:** **5,831,613**

[45] **Date of Patent:** **Nov. 3, 1998**

[54] **REMOVABLE STORAGE MEDIA STOP/ EJECT SYSTEM FOR PERSONAL COMPUTERS**

[75] Inventors: **John E. Johnston**, Redwood City; **Christopher J. Raymond**, San Jose, both of Calif.; **William V. Oxford**, Austin, Tex.; **Ronald J. Moller**, Boulder Creek, Calif.

[73] Assignee: **Apple Computer, Inc.**, Cupertino, Calif.

[21] Appl. No.: **779,188**

[22] Filed: **Jan. 6, 1997**

[51] **Int. Cl.**[6] **G06F 3/00**
[52] **U.S. Cl.** **345/339**; 361/685
[58] **Field of Search** 345/339; 711/111; 361/683, 684, 685, 686; 364/188, 189, 190

[56] **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

5,138,925	8/1992	Koguchi et al.	84/609
5,525,977	6/1996	Suman	340/825.25
5,657,221	8/1997	Warman et al.	364/188
5,661,631	8/1997	Crane, Jr.	361/683
5,666,531	9/1997	Martin	707/204

Primary Examiner—A. Katbab
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Burns, Doane, Swecker & Mathis, L.L.P.

[57] **ABSTRACT**

Manual actuation of a stop/eject button on a computer causes a signal to be sent to both the computer's operating system and to a wireless communication controller. The operating system interprets this signal in a manner analogous to a conventional signal to open the drawer, or door, of a compact disk drive device when a compact disk is not currently present in the drive device. If a compact disk is present in the device, the operating system ignores the signal. In this case, the communications controller operates in a normal fashion to interrupt access to the compact disk, instruct the operating system to unmount the disk, and thereafter eject the disk by opening the drive door.

15 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets